

BROS
THEATRE COMPANY

ANYTHING GOES

Music & Lyrics by
Cole Porter

Original Book by
**P.G Wodehouse & Guy Bolton
and Howard Lindsay & Russel Crouse**

New Book by
Timothy Crouse & John Weidman

3 - 7 August, 2026

The Minack Theatre
Porthcurno, Penzance TR19 6JU

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MINACK
THEATRE

This amateur production of ANYTHING GOES is presented by arrangement with
Concord Theatricals Ltd. on behalf of Tams-Witmark LLC www.concordtheatricals.co.uk



A note from our Patron

My wife and I have been associated with BROS Theatre Company for more than 50 years. We met in a production of *Half a Sixpence* back in 1972 at Richmond Theatre in Surrey and...well...we are still together!

Members of the company, past and present, are among our closest friends, and over the years we have joined them many times at Minack, which, along with Richmond, remains our favourite theatre. From parking cars to playing The Pope in *Sister Act*, I have so many happy memories of that glorious spot on the Cornish coast - not least because of the stunning gardens in which the theatre nestles. I am delighted and honoured to be the company's Patron and hope that you will enjoy not only the high standard of production values but also get a sense of the infectious company spirit that shines out from the stage.

Have a glorious evening in this theatrical paradise.

Alan Titchmarsh CBE DL VMH



Message from the Chair

Welcome to the iconic Minack Theatre, and to BROS Theatre Company's production of *Anything Goes*.

After a three-year gap we are looking forward immensely to coming back to the Minack for our first ever summer holiday show. Our company has spent many May half terms gracing this stage, but it will be a first for all of us to play to an August crowd. I hope you will enjoy the results of the hard work, passion and talent our performers, creatives and technicians have poured into this show over the last several months in preparation - and I am so very grateful to everyone involved with *Anything Goes*, on-stage and off, for their continued participation and support.

I feel very lucky to have become Chair of BROS TC in November last year, and to represent a company that has been delivering such high-quality musical theatre for nearly 120 years. If you're London-based I hope to see you at future productions, including the charming *Amélie The Musical*, in November, and *Catch Me If You Can*, in May 2027 - or perhaps even tempt you to join us. Do follow us on social media for news on all our shows, auditions and academy activities and get in touch if you're interested in becoming a member - whether you're looking to be on-stage, backstage or somewhere in between, our doors are always open.

We are very proud to have had an association with Minack for over thirty years now. *Anything Goes* is the 16th large-scale musical we have brought to the cliffs of Porthcurno since our debut in 1993, working with local musicians and a fabulous team of staff to create some treasured memories. We last performed *Anything Goes* at the Minack Theatre back in 1998 and indeed my first show with BROS was on this very stage a few years later, as a dancer in *Calamity Jane*. I had not been in a production of any kind since youth theatre and I remember vividly the slightly sea-misted first night curtain call, whispering to my sister (who'd persuaded me back to performing), 'Now I remember why I do this.' There is nowhere more magical to play than 'the theatre under the stars', and it is a true privilege to step out onto this stage and bring the magic to you, too. We hope we will be back again soon!

Thank you for your support. Sit back and enjoy the show - and don't forget the sun cream!

Faye Brann
Chair, BROS TC



The history of *Anything Goes*

The original idea for a musical set on board an ocean liner came from producer Vinton Freedley, who was living on a boat, having left the US to avoid his creditors. He selected the writing team, P. G. Wodehouse and Guy Bolton, and the star, Ethel Merman. The first draft of the show was called *Crazy Week*, which became *Hard to Get*, and finally *Anything Goes*.

The original plot centred on a bomb threat, a shipwreck and a group of stranded passengers on a desert island. However, just weeks before the show was due to open, the tragic SS Morro Castle disaster brought unexpected sensitivities to the subject matter. According to one account, producer Vinton Freedley felt audiences might draw uncomfortable parallels and requested revisions to the script.

Theatre historian Lee Davis offered a different view, suggesting that Freedley simply believed the story needed significant improvement.

With Bolton and Wodehouse in England and unavailable to undertake further rewrites, Freedley turned to director Howard Lindsay to develop a new book. Lindsay, in turn, enlisted press agent Russel Crouse, marking the beginning of a celebrated writing partnership that would last for decades.

Five versions of the libretto exist from the original 1934 version to the most recent 2021 revival starring Sutton Foster as Reno Sweeney.



Synopsis

Anything Goes is a 1934 musical, set aboard the ocean liner SS American, en route from New York to England. As Wall Street broker Billy Crocker helps his boss, Elisha Whitney, prepare for his trip to London he runs into his friend, the evangelist-turned-nightclub singer Reno Sweeney, who is also leaving on the same ship for London. Reno tries unsuccessfully to convince Billy to join her. The next morning, the crew of the SS American prepares to set sail.

Among the passengers is debutante Hope Harcourt, the subject of Billy's infatuation. She is accompanied by her wealthy English fiancé, Lord Evelyn Oakleigh, and her mother, Evangeline Harcourt, who has arranged her daughter's marriage to resolve their family's recent financial struggles. When Billy comes aboard to give Whitney his passport and spots Hope he then stays on the ship to pursue her. Although Hope returns Billy's feelings, she insists on maintaining her duty and marrying Evelyn.

Also hiding on board is America's Public Enemy No.13 Moonface Martin, disguised as a priest. He is joined by Erma, the promiscuous girlfriend of the missing Public Enemy No.1 Snake Eyes Johnson. Billy is apprehended by the crew as a stowaway. Believing him to be Public Enemy No.1 the captain then releases Billy to satisfy the celebrity-crazed passengers, and he basks in the fame of being a gangster until Reno's mock-evangelist cabaret act inspires him to 'confess his sins' and he reveals his identity and his love for Hope.

Reacting to this development, Mrs. Harcourt moves Hope's wedding to Evelyn up to the next morning and Billy and Moonface are locked in 'the Brig' (onboard prison). A heartbroken Hope realizes her chance at true love is over. Later that evening, Reno meets Evelyn on the deck, where he admits that he doesn't love Hope and hints that he has fallen for her instead. In true musical comedy fashion, after switching places with Spit and Dippy Malone, Billy and Moonface escape from their prison in time to stop the wedding. After many confusions are unravelled, three happy couples are then married by the Captain much to the delight of all the celebrating transatlantic passengers and crew.



SCENES

ACT ONE

A New York Bar

On Deck of the SS American

ACT TWO

Ship's Nightclub

On the Deck

In the Brig

In the Brig / On the Deck

On the Deck



MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT ONE

Overture/Prelude

I Get A Kick Out of You (*Reno Sweeney*)

There's No Cure Like Travel / Bon Voyage
(*Captain, Sailors & Company*)

You're the Top (*Reno Sweeney & Billy Crocker*)

Easy to Love (*Billy Crocker*)

Reprise: Easy to Love (*Hope Harcourt*)

The Crew Song (*Elisha Whitney*)

There'll Always Be a Lady Fair (*Sailors*)

Friendship (*Reno Sweeney & Moonface Martin*)

It's De-Lovely (*Billy Crocker & Hope Harcourt*)

Anything Goes (*Reno Sweeney & Company*)

ACT TWO

Entr'acte

Public Enemy Number One (*Captain, Purser & Passengers*)

Blow, Gabriel, Blow (*Reno Sweeney & Company*)

Goodbye, Little Dream, Goodbye
(*Hope Harcourt*)

Be Like the Bluebird (*Moonface Martin*)

All Through the Night (*Billy Crocker, Hope Harcourt & Sailors*)

The Gypsy in Me (*Lord Evelyn Oakleigh*)

Buddie Beware (*Erma & Sailors*)

Finale (*Company*)

Run time approx. 2hrs 40mins including interval

CAST

Reno Sweeney
Hope Harcourt
Lord Evelyn Oakleigh
Elisha Whitney
Billy Crocker
Moonface Martin
Erma Latour

Rachel Williams
Ellie McWilliam
Nick Moorhead
Chris Warden
Griffin Godsick
Paul Madeley
Aggie Holland

Evangeline Harcourt
Captain
Purser
Spit
Dippy
Purity
Chastity
Charity
Virtue
Fred
Henry T. Dobson
Reporter
News photographer
FBI Agent
Old lady in wheelchair

Clair Jardella
Stephen Beeny
Mathew Madeley
Wilson Conley
William Foo
Lucy Hennessy
Jess Brown
Michelle Spencer
Rebecca Nardin
Charlie McDowell
Ian Nethersell
Tash Wills
Becky Tarry
Kerry Magee
Sonia Huntley-Robertson

Sailors:

Chris Bryan, Connor Harper, Chris Nash, Callum Taylor

Featured tappers:

Ciara Costello, Juliet Manners, Gemma Melhuish, Louise Vinter

Passengers:

Lizzie Brignall, Louise Ellard-Turnbull, Roxanne Ip, Jasmine Lord-D'Souza,
Kerry Magee, Georgina Nash, Emma Playle, Helen Shore,
Tracy Sorgiovanni, Becky Tarry, Tash Wills



Creative Team

Director
Musical Director
Choreographer
Associate Choreographers (Tap)

Deb McDowell
Martin Wilcox
Jen Moorhead
Louise Vinter, Lucy Hennessy

Band

Reed 1
Reed 2
Reed 3

Amy Roberts
Sarah McDonagh
Jacob Perry

Trumpet 1
Trumpet 2
Trombone 1
Trombone 2

Kirsten Burden
Sara Munns
Sinne Brock
Ian Davies

Violin
Guitar

Nat Jones
James Coulthard

Keyboard
Bass
Drums
Percussion

Leah Howell
James MacPhail
Claire Brock
Ross Hamilton

Conductor

Martin Wilcox



Production Team

Production Manager	Lauren Nardin
Set Design and Build	Greg Wilmot
Stage Manager	Richard Coveney
Stage Crew	Ian Nethersell, Robert Gow, Katie Sevenoaks, Danny Rogers, Tracey Gillard, Eric Williams, Marilyn Pike, Helen Lowe, Caro Hayes, Oliver Huntley-Robertson
Lighting Design	Greg Jordan
Lighting Team	Tony Pike, Chris Pike
Sound Design/Operation	Stuart Vaughan for StuSound.com
Sound Team	Philippa Stone
Properties Lead	Jane Bean
Properties Team	Veronica Martin, Anne Pringle, Julie Coveney
Wardrobe Lead	Kerry Magee
Wigs, Hair & Make-up	Louise Ellard-Turnbull
Marketing Team	Jen Moorhead, Callum Taylor
Publicity Design	Jordan Smith, Paul Madeley, Jen Moorhead
Rehearsal Photography	Louise Ellard-Turnbull
Rehearsal Pianists	Leah Howell, Tom Chippendale, Tom Theakston
Band fixer and co-ordinator	Millie Millington

BROS Theatre Company would like to thank:

Lucy Blair and Antonia Lord at Barnes Primary School; AJ at Kitson Hall; Rebecca Thomas, John Brolly, Simon Hutchings, Vanessa Jackson, Sian Kennedy, Millie Jones, Lynn Batten and all the staff at the Minack Theatre; Simon Corkin; Raoul Nardin; Wes & Claire Henderson-Roe; Teddington Theatre Club; the Big Yellow Storage Company; Charades Theatrical Costume Hire; NODA

BROS Committee members who have served during this production:

Faye Brann, Connor Harper, Mathew Madeley, Kerry Magee, Gemma Melhuish, Jen Moorhead, Chris Nash, Georgina Nash, Helen Shore, Tracy Sorgiovanni, Joe Stockwell, Lottie Walker.



JOIN US

BROS Theatre Company is over 110 years old and continues to win awards for its individual members as well as ensemble work and overall production values, both at local Arts Richmond events and London-wide NODA competitions. We perform in a number of venues in southwest London, but The Minack Theatre holds a special place in our hearts, and this year sees us celebrating 30 years of working together, with Anything Goes being the 16th musical we have performed at this wonderful venue.

As an inclusive society, we welcome new members in all capacities, on stage and vitally, behind the scenes – so if treading the boards isn't your thing, we have plenty of opportunities for you to be a part of our family. In addition to shows, we have numerous social events throughout the year, including BROS Academy: a series of workshops and classes for members and non-members to hone their stage skills; group trips to West End shows, summer and Christmas parties, and our biennial awards evening, the BROSCARS, celebrating the efforts and achievements of all.

If you're London or Surrey based and want to find out more about joining us, visit our website at www.brostheatrecompany.org or follow us on social media. We have a full programme of productions for 2026 and 2027 already, and very much look forward to meeting you!

Based on the motion picture
Amélie written by Jean-Pierre Jeunet and Guillaume Laurant.

BROS
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Music by
Daniel Messé

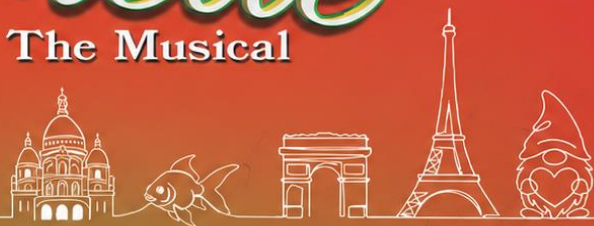
Lyrics by
Daniel Messé and Nathan Tysen

Book by
Craig Lucas.



Amélie

The Musical



NOVEMBER 2026



HAMPTON HILL
THEATRE



THANK YOU, BIG YELLOW STORAGE!

BROS are very grateful to Big Yellow in Hounslow for providing us with high quality space to store our costumes, props and music stands. This storage space is a huge benefit to BROS. Costumes and props can be used from the store over again, saving time and cost in sourcing certain items for each show and allows us to maintain our high production values at an affordable cost.

www.bigyellow.co.uk



If you'd like to join our wardrobe department we would love to hear from you! Email committee@brostc.org



Whether you are staging a musical, an opera, a play, a concert or a pantomime, as the UK's leading amateur theatre membership organisation, NODA is here for every show, every rehearsal, every curtain call – here for our members every step of the way.

From just starting out to centre stage; village halls to professional venues; NODA exists to celebrate, connect, support and amplify amateur theatre and theatre groups across the UK.

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